

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06

OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 PA-01

PRS-01 /115 W

-----059394 031011Z /10

P R 030856Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5740

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 5316

GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR CARTER

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: EINV, ENRG, LI

SUBJECT: LIBERIA REFINING COMPANY

REF: A) STATE 178709; B) MONROVIA 5138; C) MONROVIA 4804;

D) STATE 161755

1. AT MEETING WITH FINANCE MINISTER PHILLIPS ON JULY 13 THE AMBASSADOR SHARED WITH HIM POINTS MADE IN REFTEL D) WITH EXCEPTION PARA 2, WITH UNDERSTANDING DEPT MAKING CONTACT WITH COMPANIES PER PARA 4 REFTEL D) AND ON ASSUMPTION IT BEST COURSE FOR USG TO PROVIDE SAME INFORMATION TO BOTH PARTIES. IN ADDITION, AMBASSADOR STRESSED EMBASSY NEUTRALITY, A POINT MADE CONSISTENTLY TO ALL PARTIES. HE MENTIONED THAT ANY TEMPORARY SEIZURE OF LIBERIA REFINING COMPANY SHOULD NOT DIMINISH THE GOVT OF LIBERIA EFFORTS TO CONTINUE SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS TOWARD PURCHASE OF LRC EQUITY OR ASSETS AT A FAIR PRICE.

2. AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZED THAT SHOULD GOL DECIDE NOT TO  
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PURCHASE REFINERY EQUITY OR ASSETS, IT SHOULD, TO SHOW GOOD FAITH, LET SUN/DYNALECTRON KNOW THAT IT HAS NO OBJECTION TO COMPANIES' SELLING REFINERY TO THIRD PARTIES. AMBASSADOR ADDED GOL'S WILLINGNESS TO SUBMIT MATTER TO IMPARTIAL ARBITRATION WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL.

3. THE EMBASSY OF COURSE UNDERSTANDS DEPT'S CONCERNS AS

EXPRESSED REFTEL A). HOWEVER, IT IS OUR BEST JUDGEMENT THAT THE GOL HAS NOT RPT NOT INTERPRETED IN ANY WAY THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN REFTEL D) AS A PRE-JUDGMENT OF ANY ULTIMATE RULING. WE WOULD ALSO SUGGEST THAT DEPT/ EMBASSY GOOD OFFICES THUS FAR HAVE BEEN HELPFUL TO BOTH SIDES IN THEIR ATTEMPTS REACH AMICABLE SETTLEMENT.

4. INFORMATION IN REFTEL D) WAS DISCUSSED ONLY WITH MINISTER PHILLIPS BUT IN THE PRESENCE OF FOUR OF HIS ADVISORS, INCLUDING ROBERT TUBMAN, DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE FOR ECONOMIC/COMERCIAL AFFAIRS. FYI: TUBMAN IS FORMER LEGAL COUNSEL FOR LRC AND HAS EXPRESSED TO US SYMPATHY FOR SUN'S POSITION. END FYI.

HORAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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